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## SERVICES DIVISION INDICATIONS JOURNAL

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Chinese Communist Freighter Movements into Hai T'ien - Lung T'ien Staging Area

Photo reconnaissance on 13 September 1955 revealed the presence of six vessels, including three probable merchant ships, one possible naval patrol craft, and two IP's, anchored near Ch'iu-Tan, on Hai T'ien Island opposite the Lung T'ien airfield area. 1/ This is the first evidence of the movement of coastal-type merchant ships and a patrol craft into these protected waters -- fifty miles due south of the Matsus -- although small IP's and junks have been reported.

It is probable that this freighter activity is in logistic support of military installations, including Lung T'ien airfield, in the Lung T'ien - Hai T'ien area. The three merchant vessels, which ranged in length from 100 to 170 foot, possibly carried cargo totaling 1500 tons. The appearance of this merchant shipping is of interest in view of the development of logistic capabilities noted in the Lung T'ien airfield area in this Journal on 24 June 1955. 2/

Road and military construction activity on both the peninsula south of Lung T'ien airfield and on Hai T'ien Island, including construction of feeder roads on the peninsula to connect with deep water piers, suggested at that time that the Chinese Communists were not only developing the capability for logistic support of the Lung T'ien airfield but also developing a supply and possible amphibious staging area comparable to that in the Santu - Loyuan Bay area just north of the Matsus.

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Sources:

2/ CRR/Services Division Indications Journal, 24 June 1955, Secret/NoFORN.

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